donations. Ayurveda hospitals should be established in important places such as Quilon, Kottayam, and Alleppey; and in cases where the people provided the facilities for starting such hospitals, they should be adequately encouraged.

Fifthly, only *vaidyans* with examination qualifications or approved *vaidyans* should be allowed to practise or supply medicines to the public. To bring this into force, it was necessary to introduce a system of licenses under which quacks could be effectively excluded. A board of four experts constituted for the purpose must certify whether a person might vend medicines or practise as a *vaidyan*.

To encourage the system in Travancore and to facilitate the sale of the locally manufactured medicines, the Member suggested the imposition of duty on imported *Ayurvedic* medicines.

The board suggested above should be constituted of four experts. They should be responsible for the issue of licenses to practitioners, for the publication of manuscripts relating to *Ayurveda* and for the publication of text-books for the pupils of the Ayurveda College and Schools. A monthly magazine on *Ayurveda* should also be published. This, it was suggested, would also be a source of income.

To meet the expenses in connection with the proposals, the income from the herbarium, licenses, import duty, pharmacy, publications, etc., would be found sufficient. The expenditure on the allopathic institutions should be reduced by 25 per cent. and that amount should be diverted to the development of *Ayurveda Vaidyasalas*.

Lastly, he requested that the Ezhavas should receive adequate encouragement in the Ayurveda Department in consideration of the fact that in former times the Ezhavas were hereditary *Ayurvedic* physicians and that they were not represented in the department at present.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Kunjuraman Vaidyan, *Ayurveda* has only comparatively recently had its rebirth in the State as an official department. After considering all your representations, I do not think it is advisable at present to force it into a precocious growth; its growth should be natural, else it would outgrow its normal strength.

2. As you are aware, there is a definite programme of developing the department and I think that programme is an excellent one. I was glad to note your remarks upon the wonderful advance and success some of the *Ayurveda* physicians who worked in our institutions here have secured by transferring their activities to Madura, Ceylon or elsewhere. It pleases the Government immensely to see that Travancore *vaidyans* are prospering and establishing themselves abroad and reflecting honour on the *vaidyans* of Travancore. May there be many more like them!

78. Popularisation of Ayurveda.

MR. S. KRISHNAN ASAN (*Member, Nominated*) represented that, though in reply to his representation at the twentieth session of the Assembly, the Dewan observed that several valuable suggestions for the improvement of the Ayurveda College had been made by him, no action had yet been taken to give effect to them.

The students trained in and sent out of the Ayurveda College were not fully qualified to do their duties properly. Most of the works on *Ayurveda* were in the Sanskrit language ; and owing to the fact that pupils who had no knowledge of Sanskrit were admitted at the instance of the present Director of Ayurveda, they were unable fully to assimilate the instruction imparted in the institution. While their knowledge of theory was thus rendered defective, the absence of a herbarium where pupils can study the various medicinal herbs, plants, etc., the lack of facilities to obtain a practical knowledge of the preparation of oils, *lehyams*, etc., the want of opportunities for study in clinics by the observation of cases, and their inablity to diagnose cases and observe the methods of treatment adopted by experienced *vaidyans*, combined to make the certificate-holders ill-equipped for practice. The risks attendant upon the staffing of *vaidyasalas* by such men were heavy and numerous inasmuch as the health and life of people were placed in their hands.

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The *Ayurveda* system was superior to the other systems obtaining in the country as it aimed at removing the root-cause of the disease and not content with treating the symptoms only. There was no one in the department who could perform such highly delicate operations as *vasti*. *Vaidyans* capable of performing successfully these operations which were gradually falling into disuse should be appointed. A committee consisting of Messrs. Vayaskara Moosu, Thaikattusseri Nambudiri, Turavur Ananta Shenoi, Pantalam Krishna Variar, Panavallil Krishnan Vaidyar, Kakkakuzhi Padmanabhan and other eminent *vaidyans* of established reputation should be formed to administer and control the department if the defects were to be removed.

Preference should be given to experienced and skilled *vaidyans* in the country and to qualified certificate-holders in the matter of appointments to the *vaidyasalas* which were being newly awarded grants every year.

Leprosy, consumption and diabetes were widely prevalent in the country. The Member reminded the Government that in the previous year he had asked that four or five patients from the Leper Asylum should be entrusted to his care and had guaranteed that he would cure them within a specified time, and that, though the Dewan had agreed to accept the proposal, nothing had been done.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Krishnan Asan, I have no doubt that the Director of Ayurveda has earnestly directed his attention to your very eloquent words as I did myself. The important questions that you have raised will be borne in mind by the Government. And I have no doubt the Director will bear all that you have said in mind when he is sending up proposals to the Government on the administration of his department.

2. I see, from your allusion to the herbarium and to the mode of teaching the young practitioner, that you belong to that school of *Ayurvedic* thought which holds that the practitioner should also be his own druggist and herbarist. In respect of that, I will point out to you that there is also another school which, borrowing no doubt from the druggist of the West, would like to see that drugs, concoctions and decoctions and so on should be standardised and brought into use in much the same way as the British Pharmacopæa provides for. So, you see that yours is not the only school of thought. The Government will have to consider, in consultation with the Director, which will be the ultimate goal the *Ayurveda* practitioner should aim at, whether he should be his own druggist or whether we should establish a Pharmacopæa. These are all difficult problems which will require thorough thinking out and it will take time. I may assure you that the department watches the direction in which the practitioner is naturally taking his course.

79. Educational reforms.

MR. GOVINDAN PADMANABHAN (*Member, Trivandrum taluk, Group II*) said that the present educational policy needed thorough revision and made certain proposals, the first among which was the introduction of the 'shift system' in the first two classes of all primary schools. It would be cruel to compel children to undergo five hours' study a day. The introduction of the system would be a boon to the working classes as the parents could have the services of their children during leisure hours and the children also would be benefited by the training in their hereditary profession.

English should be taught as a compulsory subject in all classes from Class IV of Vernacular Schools in the same way as it is done in English Schools. If this proposal was adopted, the Government would be able within a short period to do away with the Middle School classes in English Schools. The system proposed had been advocated by eminent educationists and had the advantage of imparting instruction in Arithmetic, Geography, etc., in the vernacular. As these subjects were even now taught in the vernacular in the Middle School classes of English Schools, it was an unnecessary duplication of tuition which the students already had in the Vernacular School classes. It would therefore be sufficient to retain in English Schools only classes above Form III. The adoption of the system would also give better grounding to pupils on such subjects as Arithmetic and Geography. It would also result in a large saving to the Government. He also hoped that the introduction of English as a

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